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10/789,809	02/27/2004	Trevor W. Freeman	MS1-1747US	5655
22801	7590	02/13/2009	EXAMINER	
LEE & HAYES, PLLC			KAPLAN, BENJAMIN A	
601 W. RIVERSIDE AVENUE				
SUITE 1400			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
SPOKANE, WA 99201			2439	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/789,809	FREEMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	BENJAMIN A. KAPLAN	2439	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 December 2008.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-5, 7-13 and 15-34 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-5, 7-13 and 15-34 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/17/2008, 12/04/2008 & 02/10/2009</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is in regards to the most recent papers filed on 05 May 2008.
2. Claims 1-5, 7-13 & 15-34 are pending.
3. Claims 6 & 14 are canceled.
4. Claims 1, 9, 16, 23, 30 & 34 are amended.
5. Claims 1-5, 7-13 & 15-34 are rejected.

Response to Amendments and Arguments

6. The rejection of Claims 23-29 under 35 USC § 101 is withdrawn.
7. The previous standing rejections made under 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103 are withdrawn in view of amendments and arguments.
8. The low level of trust element does not materially effect the present invention, as extraneous activities regarding establishing the level of trust does not change any of the present actions. The specification dose indicate that only a low level of trust is needed to perform the operation however the detail does not have any specific limitation in regards to what is considered a low level of trust. It is merely declared that only a low level of trust is needed because or the invention's use of an out-of-band mechanism.

Information Disclosure Statement

9. The following item in the information disclosure statement filed 10/17/2008 have not been given consideration for lacking relevance to the present application or for neither include a concise explanation of the relevance, nor an English translation of at

least the abstract. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

- a. Foreign Patent Document Citation #2 JP2001526814 has no English translation or explanation of relevance.
- b. Foreign Patent Document Citation #3 JP2005155729 is about hydraulic controls and oil flow. (no relevance)
- c. Foreign Patent Document Citation #4 KR10-2002-0026751 has no English translation or explanation of relevance.
- d. Foreign Patent Document Citation #5 KR10-2004-0008275 has no English translation or explanation of relevance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 1-5, 7, 9-13, 16-21, 23-28 & 30-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Remote Operating System Installation (ROSI) in view of United States Patent Application Publication No. US 2001/0020228 A1 (Cantu et al.).

Cantu et al incorporates the Handbook of Applied Cryptography (Handbook) (Cantu et al., Paragraph [0054], Lines 12-21 “Public key algorithms include the Rivest, Shamir, and Adleman (RSA) algorithm, or may include any public key encryption

algorithm known in the art, such as Diffie and Hellman. Further details of public key encryption is described in the publication "An Overview of the PKCS Standards," RSA Laboratories Technical Note, by Burton S. Kaliski, Jr. (1993) and "Handbook of Applied Cryptography," by Alfred J. Menezes, Paul C. van Oorschot, and Scott A. Vanstone (1996), which publications are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.").

12. Claims 1-3, 7, 9-11, 16-19, 23-26, 30 & 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (ROSI) in view of (Cantu et al.). Interpreting the claims as establishing symmetric keys.

As per Claim 1: ROSI in view of Cantu et al. teaches: **An out-of-band method for asynchronously establishing a secure association with a server node, the method comprising:**

ROSI teaches:

- **allowing a client node to remotely load an operating system;**
- **loading the operating system on the client node, wherein a profile of the operating system is stored on the server node;**

(ROSI, Page 5, Lines 1-34 "

1. A PXE-enabled client connected to the network starts, and during the power up, the computer initiates a network service request. As part of the network service request, a DHCP discover packet is sent to the network requesting an IP address from the closest DHCP server, the IP address of an available RIS server, and as part of that request, the client sends its Globally Unique Identifier (GUID). (The GUID is present in client computers that are PC98- or Net PC-compliant and is found in the system BIOS of the computer.). The DHCP server responds to the request by providing an IP address to the client. Any available RIS server can respond with its IP address, and the name of the boot file the client should request if the client selects that RIS server for service. The user is prompted to press the function key, F12, to initiate service from that RIS server.

2. The RIS server (using the BINL service) must check in Active Directory for the existence of a prestaged client computer account that matches this client computer. BINL checks for the existence of a client computer by querying Active Directory for a client computer that matches the GUID sent in step 1.
3. Once RIS has checked for the existence of a client computer account, the Client Installation wizard (CIW) is downloaded to the client computer, and prompts the user to log on to the network.
4. Once the user logs on, RIS checks the Active Directory for a corresponding user account, verifying the password. RIS then checks the RIS specific Group Policy settings to find out which installation options the user should have access to. RIS also checks to see which operating system images the specific user should be offered, and the Client Installation wizard makes those options available to the client.
5. If the user is only allowed a single installation option and operating system choice, the user is not prompted to select anything. Rather, the Client Installation wizard warns the user that the installation will reformat their hard disk and previously stored information will be deleted, and then prompts the user to start the Remote OS Installation.
6. Once the user confirms the installation settings on the summary screen, the operating system installation begins. At this point, if a client computer account was not present in Active Directory, the BINL service creates the client computer account, thus automatically providing a name for the computer. The operating system is installed locally as an unattended installation, which means the end user is not offered any installation choices during the operating system installation phase.

The Remote OS Installation process is straightforward from an end user perspective. The administrator can guide the user through a successful operating system installation by pre-determining which installation options, if any, an end user has access to. The administrator can also restrict which operating system image or images a user has access to, thus ensuring the correct operating system installation type is offered to the user for a successful installation.”).

ROSI does not explicitly teach the following limitations however Cantu et al. in analogous art does teach the following limitations:

- generating a local public value and a local private value on the client node

(Handbook, Chapter 12, Page 516, Section 12.47, “

12.47 Protocol Diffie-Hellman key agreement (basic version)

SUMMARY: A and B each send the other one message over an open channel.

RESULT: shared secret K known to both parties A and B .

1. *One-time setup.* An appropriate prime p and generator α of \mathbb{Z}_p^* ($2 \leq \alpha \leq p - 2$) are selected and published.
2. *Protocol messages.*

$$A \rightarrow B : \alpha^x \text{ mod } p \quad (1)$$

$$A \leftarrow B : \alpha^y \text{ mod } p \quad (2)$$

3. *Protocol actions.* Perform the following steps each time a shared key is required.
 - (a) A chooses a random secret x , $1 \leq x \leq p - 2$, and sends B message (1).
 - (b) B chooses a random secret y , $1 \leq y \leq p - 2$, and sends A message (2).
 - (c) B receives α^x and computes the shared key as $K = (\alpha^x)^y \text{ mod } p$.
 - (d) A receives α^y and computes the shared key as $K = (\alpha^y)^x \text{ mod } p$.
-

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Party A is one node (the client node), α or p are the public value, and x is the private value.

- storing the public value for configuration of the secure association on an out-of-band computer-readable storage medium wherein the stored public value is not used for authentication
- transporting the out-of-band computer-readable storage medium to the server node
- to establish a trust relationship allowing for remotely loading the operating system on the client node from the server node, wherein a low level of trust is required
- receiving the public value from the server node via the out-of-band computer-readable storage medium

(Cantu et al., Paragraph [0107], “In the described implementations of FIGS. 8 and 9, the parties exchanged public keys using computer diskettes or secure e -mail. However, alternative secure techniques can be used by the parties to exchange keys, whether or not such exchange occurs as part of a transaction related to the preexisting relationships 400, 402, 404 or some unrelated exchange.”).

Exchanging Keys using computer diskettes stores a value on the diskette (computer-readable storage medium) at the client node and transports the diskette to give the value to the server node.

The low level of trust element does not materially effect the present invention, as extraneous activities regarding establishing the level of trust does not change any of the present actions.

- generating a secret value using the3 local private value in combination with the public value received from the server node; wherein the receiving is asynchronous to the generating

(Handbook, Chapter 12, Page 516, Section 12.47, “

12.47 Protocol Diffie-Hellman key agreement (basic version)

SUMMARY: A and B each send the other one message over an open channel.

RESULT: shared secret K known to both parties A and B .

1. *One-time setup.* An appropriate prime p and generator α of \mathbb{Z}_p^* ($2 \leq \alpha \leq p - 2$) are selected and published.
2. *Protocol messages.*

$$\begin{aligned} A &\rightarrow B : \alpha^x \bmod p & (1) \\ A &\leftarrow B : \alpha^y \bmod p & (2) \end{aligned}$$

3. *Protocol actions.* Perform the following steps each time a shared key is required.
 - (a) A chooses a random secret x , $1 \leq x \leq p - 2$, and sends B message (1).
 - (b) B chooses a random secret y , $1 \leq y \leq p - 2$, and sends A message (2).
 - (c) B receives α^x and computes the shared key as $K = (\alpha^x)^y \bmod p$.
 - (d) A receives α^y and computes the shared key as $K = (\alpha^y)^x \bmod p$.
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Protocol actions, Step (d); Shared key K is the generated secret value.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Cantu et al. in to ROSI's method in order to secure the Remote OS installation communications from sniffers/eavesdroppers that would seek to obtain unauthorized access and/or other information that would harm the legitimate operations of a standing system/organization. It would be particularly obvious in view of ROSI's recognition of this strategic weak point. (ROSI, Page 26, Lines 29-34 “

Question: Is the pre-boot portion of the PXE remote boot ROM secure?

Answer: No. The entire ROM sequence and operating system installation/replication is not secure with regard to packet type encryption, client/server spoofing, or wire sniffer based mechanisms. As such, use caution when using Remote OS Installation on your corporate network. Ensure that you only allow authorized RIS servers on your network,

and that the number of administrators allowed to install and/or configure RIS servers is controlled.”).

As per Claim 2: The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Cantu et al. teaches:

- the method is performed on both of a pair of nodes, and wherein further the secret values generated at both of the nodes are symmetric

(Handbook, Chapter 12, Page 516, Section 12.47, “

12.47 Protocol Diffie-Hellman key agreement (basic version)

SUMMARY: A and B each send the other one message over an open channel.

RESULT: shared secret K known to both parties A and B .

1. *One-time setup.* An appropriate prime p and generator α of \mathbb{Z}_p^* ($2 \leq \alpha \leq p - 2$) are selected and published.
2. *Protocol messages.*

$$\begin{aligned} A &\rightarrow B : \alpha^x \bmod p & (1) \\ A &\leftarrow B : \alpha^y \bmod p & (2) \end{aligned}$$

3. *Protocol actions.* Perform the following steps each time a shared key is required.

- (a) A chooses a random secret x , $1 \leq x \leq p - 2$, and sends B message (1).
 - (b) B chooses a random secret y , $1 \leq y \leq p - 2$, and sends A message (2).
 - (c) B receives α^x and computes the shared key as $K = (\alpha^x)^y \bmod p$.
 - (d) A receives α^y and computes the shared key as $K = (\alpha^y)^x \bmod p$.
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The method is performed at both nodes. Both nodes generate the secret value shared key K.

As per Claim 3: The rejection of claim 2 is incorporated and further a performing a Diffie-Hellman key agreement as discussed in claims 1 and 2 is a Diffie-Hellman computation.

As per Claim 7: The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Cantu et al. teaches:

- the receiving of the public value from the other node via an out-of-band mechanism includes downloading the public value from an external device

(Cantu et al., Paragraph [0107], “In the described implementations of FIGS. 8 and 9, the parties exchanged public keys using computer diskettes or secure e -mail. However, alternative secure techniques can be used by the parties to exchange keys, whether or not such exchange occurs as part of a transaction related to the preexisting relationships 400, 402, 404 or some unrelated exchange.”).

A computer diskette is an external device.

As per Claim 9: Claim 9 is substantially the method claim of claim 1 as a computer readable storage medium and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 1.

As per Claim 10: The rejection of claim 9 is incorporated and further:

Claim 10 is substantially the method claim of claim 2 as a computer readable medium and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 2.

As per Claim 11: The rejection of claim 9 is incorporated and further:

Claim 11 is substantially the method claim of claim 3 as a computer readable medium and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 3.

As per Claim 16: Claim 16 is substantially the method claim of claim 1 as an apparatus and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 1.

As per Claim 17: The rejection of claim 16 is incorporated and further:

Claim 17 is substantially the method claim of claim 2 as an apparatus and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 2.

As per Claim 18: The rejection of claim 16 is incorporated and further in accordance with Cantu et al.'s method the other node may be a server.

As per Claim 19: The rejection of claim 16 is incorporated and further:

Claim 19 is substantially the method claim of claim 3 as an apparatus and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 3.

As per Claim 23: Claim 23 is substantially the method claim of claim 1 as a protocol and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 1.

As per Claim 24: The rejection of claim 23 is incorporated and further:

Claim 24 is substantially the method claim of claim 2 as a protocol and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 2.

As per Claim 25: The rejection of claim 24 is incorporated and further:

Claim 25 is substantially the method claim of claim 3 as a protocol and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 3.

As per Claim 26: The rejection of claim 24 is incorporated and further as both parties end up with shared key K in the Diffie-Hellman method the shared secret is symmetrical.

As per Claim 30: Claim 30 is substantially the method claim of claim 1 as an apparatus and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 1.

As per Claim 31: The rejection of claim 30 is incorporated and further:

Claim 31 is substantially the method claim of claim 3 as an apparatus and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 3.

13. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 13, 16, 18, 20, 21, 23, 27, 28, 30, 32 & 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (ROSI) in view of (Cantu et al.).

Interpreting the claims as establishing symmetric keys.

As per Claim 1: ROSI in view of Cantu et al. teaches: **An out-of-band method for asynchronously establishing a secure association with a server node, the method comprising:**

ROSI teaches:

- allowing a client node to remotely load an operating system;**
- loading the operating system on the client node, wherein a profile of the operating system is stored on the server node;**

(ROSI, Page 5, Lines 1-34 “

1. A PXE-enabled client connected to the network starts, and during the power up, the computer initiates a network service request. As part of the network service request, a DHCP discover packet is sent to the network requesting an IP address from the closest DHCP server, the IP address of an available RIS server, and as part of that request, the client sends its Globally Unique Identifier (GUID). (The GUID is present in client computers that are PC98- or Net PC-compliant and is found in the system BIOS of the computer.). The DHCP server responds to the request by providing an IP address to the client. Any available RIS server can respond with its IP address, and the name of the boot file the client should request if the client selects that RIS server for service. The user is prompted to press the function key, F12, to initiate service from that RIS server.

2. The RIS server (using the BINL service) must check in Active Directory for the existence of a prestaged client computer account that matches this client computer. BINL checks for the existence of a client computer by querying Active Directory for a client computer that matches the GUID sent in step 1.
3. Once RIS has checked for the existence of a client computer account, the Client Installation wizard (CIW) is downloaded to the client computer, and prompts the user to log on to the network.
4. Once the user logs on, RIS checks the Active Directory for a corresponding user account, verifying the password. RIS then checks the RIS specific Group Policy settings to find out which installation options the user should have access to. RIS also checks to see which operating system images the specific user should be offered, and the Client Installation wizard makes those options available to the client.
5. If the user is only allowed a single installation option and operating system choice, the user is not prompted to select anything. Rather, the Client Installation wizard warns the user that the installation will reformat their hard disk and previously stored information will be deleted, and then prompts the user to start the Remote OS Installation.
6. Once the user confirms the installation settings on the summary screen, the operating system installation begins. At this point, if a client computer account was not present in Active Directory, the BINL service creates the client computer account, thus automatically providing a name for the computer. The operating system is installed locally as an unattended installation, which means the end user is not offered any installation choices during the operating system installation phase.

The Remote OS Installation process is straightforward from an end user perspective. The administrator can guide the user through a successful operating system installation by pre-determining which installation options, if any, an end user has access to. The administrator can also restrict which operating system image or images a user has access to, thus ensuring the correct operating system installation type is offered to the user for a successful installation.”).

ROSI does not explicitly teach the following limitations however Cantu et al. in analogous art does teach the following limitations:

- generating a local public value and a local private value on the client node

(Handbook, Chapter 8, Page 286, Section 8.1 - 8.2, “

8.1 Algorithm Key generation for RSA public-key encryption

SUMMARY: each entity creates an RSA public key and a corresponding private key.

Each entity A should do the following:

1. Generate two large random (and distinct) primes p and q , each roughly the same size.
 2. Compute $n = pq$ and $\phi = (p - 1)(q - 1)$. (See Note 8.5.)
 3. Select a random integer e , $1 < e < \phi$, such that $\gcd(e, \phi) = 1$.
 4. Use the extended Euclidean algorithm (Algorithm 2.107) to compute the unique integer d , $1 < d < \phi$, such that $ed \equiv 1 \pmod{\phi}$.
 5. A 's public key is (n, e) ; A 's private key is d .
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8.2 Definition

The integers e and d in RSA key generation are called the *encryption exponent* and the *decryption exponent*, respectively, while n is called the *modulus*.

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Public key (n, e) is the public value, Private key d is the private value.

- storing the public value for configuration of the secure association on an out-of-band computer-readable storage medium wherein the stored public value is not used for authentication
- transporting the out-of-band computer-readable storage medium to the server node
- to establish a trust relationship allowing for remotely loading the operating system on the client node from the server node, wherein a low level of trust is required
- receiving the public value from the server node via the out-of-band computer-readable storage medium

(Cantu et al., Paragraph [0107], “In the described implementations of FIGS. 8 and 9, the parties exchanged public keys using computer diskettes or secure e -mail. However, alternative secure techniques can be used by the parties to exchange keys, whether or not such exchange occurs as part of a transaction related to the preexisting relationships 400, 402, 404 or some unrelated exchange.”).

Exchanging Keys using computer diskettes stores a value on the diskette (computer-readable storage medium) at one node and transports the diskette to give the value to the other node.

(Handbook, Chapter 8, Page 286, Section 8.3, “

8.3 Algorithm RSA public-key encryption

SUMMARY: B encrypts a message m for A , which A decrypts.

1. *Encryption.* B should do the following:

- (a) Obtain A 's authentic public key (n, e) .
- (b) Represent the message as an integer m in the interval $[0, n - 1]$.
- (c) Compute $c = m^e \bmod n$ (e.g., using Algorithm 2.143).
- (d) Send the ciphertext c to A .

2. *Decryption.* To recover plaintext m from c , A should do the following:

- (a) Use the private key d to recover $m = c^d \bmod n$.
-

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The obtained public key is the received public value.

The low level of trust element does not materially effect the present invention, as extraneous activities regarding establishing the level of trust does not change any of the present actions.

- generating a secret value using the local private value in combination with the public value received from the server node; wherein the receiving is asynchronous to the generating

(Handbook, Chapter 8, Page 290, Section 8.2.3, “

8.2.3 RSA encryption in practice

There are numerous ways of speeding up RSA encryption and decryption in software and hardware implementations. Some of these techniques are covered in Chapter 14, including fast modular multiplication (§14.3), fast modular exponentiation (§14.6), and the use of the Chinese remainder theorem for faster decryption (Note 14.75). Even with these improvements, RSA encryption/decryption is substantially slower than the commonly used symmetric-key encryption algorithms such as DES (Chapter 7). In practice, RSA encryption is most commonly used for the transport of symmetric-key encryption algorithm keys and for the encryption of small data items.

The RSA cryptosystem has been patented in the U.S. and Canada. Several standards organizations have written, or are in the process of writing, standards that address the use of the RSA cryptosystem for encryption, digital signatures, and key establishment. For discussion of patent and standards issues related to RSA, see Chapter 15.

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The secret value is the symmetric-key established though the use of the RSA public and private keys.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of Cantu et al. in to ROSI's method in order to secure the Remote OS installation communications from sniffers/eavesdroppers that would seek to obtain unauthorized access and/or other information that would harm the legitimate operations of a standing system/organization. It would be particularly obvious in view of ROSI's recognition of this strategic weak point. (ROSI, Page 26, Lines 29-34 “

Question: Is the pre-boot portion of the PXE remote boot ROM secure?

Answer: No. The entire ROM sequence and operating system installation/replication is not secure with regard to packet type encryption, client/server spoofing, or wire sniffer based mechanisms. As such, use caution when using Remote OS Installation on your corporate network. Ensure that you only allow authorized RIS servers on your network, and that the number of administrators allowed to install and/or configure RIS servers is controlled.”).

As per Claim 4: The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Cantu et al. teaches:

- retaining the secret value locally

It is inherently necessary to retain the secret value in order to take any further action using it or based on it.

- protecting the secret value using the public value received from the other node

- transmitting the protected secret value to the other node

(Handbook, Chapter 8, Page 286, Section 8.3, “

8.3 Algorithm RSA public-key encryption

SUMMARY: B encrypts a message m for A , which A decrypts.

1. *Encryption.* B should do the following:
 - (a) Obtain A 's authentic public key (n, e) .
 - (b) Represent the message as an integer m in the interval $[0, n - 1]$.
 - (c) Compute $c = m^e \bmod n$ (e.g., using Algorithm 2.143).
 - (d) Send the ciphertext c to A .
 2. *Decryption.* To recover plaintext m from c , A should do the following:
 - (a) Use the private key d to recover $m = c^d \bmod n$.
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([Handbook](#), Chapter 8, Page 290, Section 8.2.3, “

8.2.3 RSA encryption in practice

There are numerous ways of speeding up RSA encryption and decryption in software and hardware implementations. Some of these techniques are covered in Chapter 14, including fast modular multiplication (§14.3), fast modular exponentiation (§14.6), and the use of the Chinese remainder theorem for faster decryption (Note 14.75). Even with these improvements, RSA encryption/decryption is substantially slower than the commonly used symmetric-key encryption algorithms such as DES (Chapter 7). In practice, RSA encryption is most commonly used for the transport of symmetric-key encryption algorithm keys and for the encryption of small data items.

The RSA cryptosystem has been patented in the U.S. and Canada. Several standards organizations have written, or are in the process of writing, standards that address the use of the RSA cryptosystem for encryption, digital signatures, and key establishment. For discussion of patent and standards issues related to RSA, see Chapter 15.

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In the practice of using RSA encryption for transporting the secret value (symmetric-key); The symmetric-key would be the contents of message m protected by the received public key sent as the protected value c .

- via an out-of-band mechanism

(Cantu et al., Paragraph [0107], “In the described implementations of FIGS. 8 and 9, the parties exchanged public keys using computer diskettes or secure e -mail. However, alternative secure techniques can be used by the parties to exchange keys, whether or not such exchange occurs as part of a transaction related to the preexisting relationships 400, 402, 404 or some unrelated exchange.”).

A computer diskettes is an out-of-band mechanism.

As per Claim 5: The rejection of claim 4 is incorporated and further a performing RSA encryption practices as discussed in claims 1 and 4 is a Rivest-Shamir-Adleman (RSA) computation.

As per Claim 7: The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Cantu et al. teaches:

- the receiving of the public value from the other node via an out-of-band mechanism includes downloading the public value from an external device

(Cantu et al., Paragraph [0107], “In the described implementations of FIGS. 8 and 9, the parties exchanged public keys using computer diskettes or secure e -mail. However, alternative secure techniques can be used by the parties to exchange keys, whether or not such exchange occurs as part of a transaction related to the preexisting relationships 400, 402, 404 or some unrelated exchange.”).

A computer diskette is an external device.

As per Claim 9: Claim 9 is substantially the method claim of claim 1 as a computer readable medium and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 1.

As per Claim 12: The rejection of claim 9 is incorporated and further:

Claim 12 is substantially the method claim of claim 4 as a computer readable medium and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 4.

As per Claim 13: The rejection of claim 12 is incorporated and further:

Claim 13 is substantially the method claim of claim 5 as a computer readable medium and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

As per Claim 16: Claim 16 is substantially the method claim of claim 1 as an apparatus and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 1.

As per Claim 18: The rejection of claim 16 is incorporated and further in accordance with Cantu et al.'s method the other node may be a server.

As per Claim 20: The rejection of claim 16 is incorporated and further:

Claim 20 is substantially the method claim of claim 4 as a computer readable medium and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 4.

As per Claim 21: The rejection of claim 20 is incorporated and further:

Claim 21 is substantially the method claim of claim 5 as a computer readable medium and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

As per Claim 23: Claim 23 is substantially the method claim of claim 1 as a protocol and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 1.

As per Claim 27: The rejection of claim 23 is incorporated and further:

Claim 27 is substantially the method claim of claim 4 as a protocol and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 4.

As per Claim 28: The rejection of claim 27 is incorporated and further:

Claim 28 is substantially the method claim of claim 5 as a protocol and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 5.

As per Claim 30: Claim 30 is substantially the method claim of claim 1 as an apparatus with means for and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 1. An apparatus conducting these processes inherently has a means for doing so.

As per Claim 32: The rejection of claim 30 is incorporated and further:

Claim 32 is substantially the method claim of claim 4 as an apparatus with means for and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 4. An apparatus conducting these processes inherently has a means for doing so.

As per Claim 33: The rejection of claim 32 is incorporated and further:

Claim 33 is substantially the method claim of claim 5 as an apparatus with means for and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 5. An apparatus conducting these processes inherently has a means for doing so.

14. Claims 8, 15, 22, 29 & 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (ROSI) in view of (Cantu et al.). In further view of Official Notice.

As per Claim 8: The rejection of either claim 7 is incorporated and further Cantu et al. does not explicitly teach:

- the external device is any one of a personal digital assistant (PDA), flash memory, memory stick, barcode, smart card, USB-compatible device, Bluetooth-compatible device, and infrared-compatible device.

However the Examiner is giving Official Notice that these are all functional equivalents of computer diskettes that were well known in the art at the time of invention was made. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate compatibility with these various mediums into Cantu et al.'s method in order to have a variety of redundant/faster/convenient mediums available to the working system.

As per Claim 15: The rejection of either claim 9 is incorporated and further:

Claim 15 is substantially a restatement of the limitation of claim 8 and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 8.

As per Claim 22: The rejection of either claim 16 is incorporated and further:

Claim 22 is substantially a restatement of the limitation of claim 8 and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 8.

As per Claim 29: The rejection of either claim 23 is incorporated and further:

Claim 34 is substantially a restatement of the limitation of claim 8 and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 8.

As per Claim 34: The rejection of either claim 30 is incorporated and further:

Claim 34 is substantially a restatement of the limitation of claim 8 and is rejected under substantially the same reasoning as set forth in the rejection of claim 8.

Conclusion

15. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BENJAMIN A. KAPLAN whose telephone number is (571)-270-3170. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. E.S.T..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kambiz Zand can be reached on (571) 272-3811. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Benjamin Kaplan
/Kambiz Zand/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2434